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The teacher abreast of modern practices in phonetics and the direct method will find nothing new in the general principles advocated. The chapters on "Method" and "Grammar" do, however, contain certain practical devices and concrete suggestions which may prove welcome. The reader will gain little from this book who does not bear constantly in mind the English audience to whom it is addressed; and the latter portion, indeed, treating of the historic and present status of languages in the universities, has little to offer an American. In general, however, the loss in appositeness is fairly balanced by the gain in freshness of viewpoint. The suggestion, for example, that high-school classes in French be distributed among different instructors, lest in broadening the pupils' outlook we narrow the teacher's own and fail to co-ordinate the several departments, is one not likely to have emanated from an American. The style is chatty and readable, and altogether the book may serve to fill a leisure evening more acceptably than some more comprehensive treatment.

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*University extension.*—Any type of university activity which is able in a period of five years to win a doubled measure of financial support and to increase its students threefold may be assumed to be rendering real service. Such is the record of American university extension, according to Commissioner Claxton, who sets forth cogent reasons in existing social conditions for its further enlargement.

These comments of the Commissioner occur in the Letter of Transmittal which prefaces a bulletin<sup>1</sup> on the university extension movement by Mr. W. S. Bittner, associate director of the Extension Division of Indiana University. The bulletin is a general survey of the nature, content, and extent of university extension activities, and of the types of organization by which these are administered. It includes a statement of the reasons for and the work of the Division of Extension established in the Bureau of Education in 1918, and its exceptional opportunities for making available for extension work the wealth of material existent in the federal departments. Because provision has not been made by Congress for the continuance of this Division in full operation, there has been organized the National University Extension Association to serve in a somewhat similar way as a clearing-house for the state extension organizations. An introductory chapter recites the remarkable development of the university extension service in England in connection with the labor movement—a field which Mr. Bittner says is largely untouched in America.

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*Handbook for teachers of history.*—The classroom teacher is ever made conscious of the advantage of having at hand those aids which supply brief and succinct answers to questions that perplex her and which are suggestive of methods and procedure in daily class work. The Cambridge series of hand-

<sup>1</sup> W. S. BITTNER, "The University Extension Movement," *United States Bureau of Education Bulletin No. 84*, 1919. Washington: Department of the Interior. Pp. 124.